

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-4. (Canceled)

1 5. (New) A method for the operation of a lottery on the internet comprising the
2 following steps:

3 a) a user logging on to the internet through a service provider, said service provider
4 being connected to at least one modem, said at least one modem being compatible with
5 a first microcomputer interface, a first microcomputer being connected to said at least one
6 modem and a connection box, said connection box being connected to said first
7 microcomputer, a second microcomputer, a third microcomputer, and a fourth
8 microcomputer, with said second microcomputer being connected to a scanner and a
9 printer, and with said fourth microcomputer and a tape unit,

10 b) the user accessing a service page which directs the user to a main menu, said
11 main menus including various game play choices, results of previous plays, and an option
12 to continue or to leave the service page,

13 c) if the user chooses to leave the service page, the user is returned to the internet,

14 d) if the user chooses to continue, the user chooses one of said game play choices
15 in which case game play parameters are displayed, or the user chooses said results of
16 previous plays in which case said results of previous plays are displayed,

17 e) after a user has made a game play choice, the user is given a summary of his play
18 choices, as well as a summary of the costs associated with the choices, the user then
19 again being given the choice to continue play or to return to the internet,

20 f) collecting payment for game play choices made by the user, payment being made
21 through electronic means, and

22 g) paying the user for any winning plays via electronic means.

1 6. The method of claim 5 wherein:

2 when any error is detected, an explanation of said error is displayed on a display, and
3 the user is given the option of trying the play again.

1 7. The method of claim 5 wherein:

2 after three errors by the user, the user is given the option of continuing or returning
3 to the internet.

1 8. The method of claim 5 wherein:

2 a paper receipt is printed on said printer to record game play choices and payments
3 made by the user.

1 9. The method of claim 5 wherein:

2 dedicated equipment is utilized to accomplish the steps of the method, said dedicated
3 equipment comprising a touch activated screen to operate the method, and a card reader
4 to facilitate payment.

1 10. The method as claimed in claim 5 wherein:

2 "scratch-and-win" lottery bets are enabled by the method creating a virtual game card,
3 said virtual game card comprising at least an outer layer and a lower layer, said outer layer
4 being removed by operation of a computer mouse or a touch activated screen, said lower

5 layer containing prize information or messages for the user.